

Amendments to the Claims:

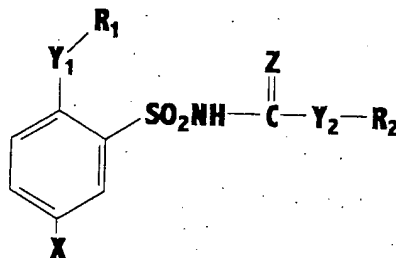
The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1—22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (previously presented): Benzene-sulphonamide compounds having the formula (I):

(I)



in which:

X represents a nitro, cyano, or halogen group;

Y₁ represents a secondary or tertiary amino group, or a sulphur;

Y₂ represents a NH group, or a nitrogen atom;

Z represents oxygen, sulphur, = N - CN or = CH - NO₂; and

R₁ and R₂, which can be identical or different, represent each independently a saturated or unsaturated linear or branched alkyl group with 2 to 12 carbon atoms, a saturated or unsaturated alicyclic group with 3 to 12 carbon atoms, an aryl group optionally substituted by one or several alkyl groups with 1 to 4 carbon atoms, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, carboxy and halogen groups, or an arylalkyl group

or Y₁ represents a tertiary amino group and forms with R₁ a morpholinyl or homopiperidinyl group, and Y₂ represents a nitrogen atom and forms with R₂ a homopiperidinyl group

with the exception of compounds for which X is a nitro group, Y₁ represents a secondary amino group (-NH-), Y₂ represents a NH group, Z represents an oxygen, R₂ represents an isopropyl and R₁ is selected from a group consisting of m-toluy, phenyl and cyclooctyl, and with the exception of N-[(2-cyclooctylamino-5-cyanobenzene)sulfonyl] N'-isopropyl urea.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The compound according to claim 23, characterized in that X is selected from a group consisting of nitro, cyano, bromo and iodo iodine group.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 23, characterized in that Y₁ represents a NH group and Y₂ represents a NH group.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The compound according to claim 23, characterized in that R₁ and R₂ represent each independently an ethyl, butyl, tert-butyl, propyl, isopropyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, decyl, amyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, cyclododecyl, 2-cyclohexenyl, m-toluy, o-toluy, p-toluy, phenyl, allyl, adamantyl, norbornyl, 3-carboxyphenyl, 2,3-dimethylphenyl, ~~2,3-dimethylphenyl~~, 2,4-dimethylphenyl, 2,5-dimethylphenyl, 2,6-dimethylphenyl, 3,4-dimethylphenyl, 3,5-dimethylphenyl, 2,4,6-trimethylphenyl, furfuryl, benzyl or 1-phenylethyl group.

Claims 27 – 28 (cancelled)

Claim 29 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 23, characterized in that it is a salt selected from a group consisting of sodium salts, the potassium salts or organic acid salts.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The compound according to claim 29, characterized in that it is chosen in a group having:
N-[(2-cyclohexylamino-5-nitrobenzene)sulfonyl]N'-tert-butyl urea,

N-cyano-N'-[(2- metatoluylamino-5-nitrobenzene)sulfonyl]homopiperidinoamidine,
N-[(2- cycloheptylamino-5-nitrobenzene)sulfonyl]N'-cyclohexyl thiourea, and
N-[(2-cyclohexen-2-yl-5-iodobenzene)sulfonyl]N'-pentyl urea.

Claims 31 – 44 (cancelled)